

Torrance, California  
July 25, 1939

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, July 25, 1939 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson, Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman McGuire moved that the minutes of a regular meeting held July 11, 1939 be approved as written. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A copy of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Manhattan Beach was read, expressing appreciation to city councils and police departments of several cities in furnishing police escorts at the funeral of Lloyd Whitehead, late citizen of the City of Manhattan Beach.

A communication was read from the General Petroleum Corporation of California, reporting no pipe line laid under Franchise Ordinance No. 781 of the County of Los Angeles for the six months' period ending June 30, 1939.

A communication was read from the Pacific Electric Railway Company relative to the proposed removal of tracks in Cabrillo Avenue and sale of the right of way to the City of Torrance. No action was taken.

A communication was read from Mr. T.T. Babbitt, 1416 Cedar Avenue, relative to the development of Cedar Avenue into a whole-some residential district by regulating the type of structures permitted and, more particularly, objecting to undesirable houses being repeatedly renovated as they become unfit for habitation. Attention was also called to faulty plumbing of the building at the rear of 1420 Cedar Avenue.

The Plumbing Inspector was instructed to inspect the plumbing at the above mentioned location.

The Matter of the undesirable condition existing on Cedar Avenue was referred to the Planning Commission.

A communication was read from D.V. Jackson, 9512 San Vincente, South Gate, requesting permission to paint house numbers on the curb in front of homes.

Councilman Hitchcock moved the request be granted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Communications addressed to the City Council and the Chief of Police were read, extending an invitation to ride in a parade to be held August 13, 1939 at 11 o'clock, culminating the First Annual Spanish Fiesta of the City of Hermosa Beach. No action was taken.

Communication was read from the Retirement Life Payments Association, requesting permission to erect tents on the corner lots across from Torrance Laundry Company and National Supply Company for a mass meeting and circus entertainment.

Councilman McGuire moved the request be granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mrs. Elsie Smith, 719 Cota Avenue, offering her services to the City Council and Police

Department in the capacity of Social Service Chairman of the Women of the Moose.

A communication was read from the International Association of Electrical Inspectors, advising that the annual convention of the Southwestern Section of the Association will be held in San Francisco August 14 to 17, 1939.

A communication was read from the League of Municipalities of the State of California, advising that the next meeting of the League will be held at Oakland September 18 to 21, 1939.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1360

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION FOR RECREATION PROJECT.

Councilman McGuire moved that Resolution No. 1360 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1357

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT WITH THE TORRANCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1939 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 1940.

Councilman McGuire moved that Resolution No. 1357 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Powell. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented the City of Torrance Annual Audit Report for the year ending June 30, 1939. Ordered filed.

Assistant City Engineer Jain reported that a few changes are necessary before the new fire zone ordinance will be ready for presentation. Deferred until the next meeting.

Councilman Powell requested leave of absence for the month of August.

Councilman Murray moved that Councilman Powell be granted leave of absence for the month of August, 1939. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that three street lights be installed at WALTERIA, per their request, at the following locations: (1) Sodium vapor light at Ocean Avenue and Highway 101, (2) Overhead light at 242nd Street and Highway 101 and (3) Overhead light at 240th street and Hawthorne Avenue. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$407.88 net be made for 1200 tons decomposed granite for street repair. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was

carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$346.44 net be made for 195 tons #4 rock and 115 tons #5 rock for street repair. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$445.12 be made for 292 barrels road oil for street repair. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$56.00, plus sales tax, be made for 35 gallons traffic paint. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$130.00 be made for a light standard at Martina Avenue and Carson Street. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$106.87 be made for material for improvement of Greenwood Avenue. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

In the matter of improving the park on Madrid Street, Councilman Hitchcock suggested that the entire Council meet and survey the proposed improvement. July 26, 1939 at 4:30 P. M. was agreed to as a suitable meeting date for this purpose.

Councilman McGuire moved that the City Electrician and Councilman Powell be authorized to attend the International Association of Electrical Inspectors at San Francisco August 14 to August 17 inclusive, expenses paid. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman McGuire moved that the members of the City Council and executive officers be authorized to attend the California State League of Municipalities Meeting at Oakland September 18 to 21 inclusive, expenses paid. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman McGuire presented a comparative report of the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1 for four years from June 30, 1936 to July 1, 1939.

Councilman McGuire presented a report of the Los Angeles County Public Library of income and expenditures of both Torrance and WALTERIA branch libraries for the period July 1, 1938 to June 30, 1939.

Councilman McGuire moved that the request of the Factory Frolic for use of the Civic Auditorium September 26 to October 2 inclusive be granted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman McGuire stated that the civic buildings are being painted at this time.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$91.92 be made for purchase of a water tapping machine to replace old machine for the Water Company. (Price quoted, \$130.50, plus sales tax, less \$42.50 trade in allowance on old tapping machine). Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$79.57 be made for 1 Underwood remanufactured typewriter for the Water Company. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$222.48 be made for 24 5/8" x 3/4" water meters for the Water Company. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that Russell Parry be appointed as a permanent fireman, salary to conform to the prevailing salary of fireman. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman McGuire asked Attorney McCall to give a ruling regarding the used car business, a discussion having arisen at a previous meeting upon the objection of a Mr. Quinn to the license fee demanded.

Attorney McCall advised that the ordinance definitely stipulates a certain fee, which can only be changed by an amendment to the ordinance.

Councilman Powell added that, in his opinion, the fee is entirely too high and suggested it be lowered if possible. He was appointed to work along these lines and assured Mr. Quinn that everything possible will be done to adjust the matter.

Mr. Jain reported no plans for a library building at Walteria have been drawn up as yet. Councilman McGuire suggested that the citizens of Walteria be allowed to offer suggestions as to location of the building. It was decided to defer the matter for the time being.

Councilman Hitchcock moved all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:25 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman McGuire, the meeting adjourned.

*A. H. Bantel*  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:

*W. R. Tolson*  
Mayor of the City of Torrance